



METROPOLITAN
TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION

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Memorandum

TO: Commission

DATE: May 16, 2007

FR: Legislation Committee

W. I.: 1131

RE: Committee Recommendations

The Legislation Committee met on May 11 and referred two items to the Commission.

1. **SB 264 (Alquist)** authorizes the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority to submit to the voters a sales tax ordinance imposing a 0.125 percent (1/8 cent) sales tax for specified purposes, provided the ordinance is approved by two-thirds of the voters and contains an expenditure plan.

Committee Recommendation: Approve a position of “support”

2. **H.R. 1984 (Baird)** would change how the “Buy America” law affects project contracts administered by the Federal Highway Administration. Specifically, this bill would require that FHWA evaluate a project as a whole, rather than determining the applicability of “Buy America” by evaluating each specific contract within an overall project. For our region, the bill has the effect of singling out the construction of the East Span of the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge with a ‘look back’ provision that would apply the new terms to past actions by FHWA, resulting in potential sanctions.

Committee Recommendation: Approve a position of “oppose”